

REMARKS

Overview of the Office Action

Claims 1-29 are pending. Claims 1-13, 15-26, 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan (U.S. Patent No. 5,893,107) in view of OLE 2 (OLE 2 Programmer's Reference, vol. 1, pages 36-39).

Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Chan in view of MSDN ("Lowering Total Cost of Ownership with Active Directory-Enabled Applications").

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chan.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1 and 18 have been amended. Claims 11-17 and 24-29 have been cancelled for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution of the present application. The cancellation of claims 11-17 and 24-29 obviates their rejections. No new matter has been added.

Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-13, 15-26, 28 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chan (U.S. Patent No. 5,893,107). Claim 1, as amended teaches features not present in the cited prior art.

Claim 1 teaches:

A computer-implemented method comprising:
generating a desired directory extension;
generating an aggregatable software object to implement the desired directory extension using a predetermined software object framework having a class identification and one or more interfaces, each interface having an interface identification;

inputting the generated aggregatable software object;
associating one of a directory class and a directory
attribute to the class identification of the aggregatable software
object, as stored in a first server location comprising a directory
of the one of a directory class and a directory attribute; and
replicating the association stored in the first server location to a
second server location.

Claim 1 was amended to add the feature of replicating the association stored in the first server location to a second server location. Support for this feature can be found on page 15, lines 1-6 of the specification as originally filed, for example. Chan does not teach or suggest such a feature. Chan is directed to “provid[ing] a directory service system for accessing a plurality of directory services in a uniform manner” where “[e]ach directory service manages information relating to objects or that directory service” (Chan, Abstract, lines 1-4). Chan further describes an “extending component” that “controls the defining of new object classes and new properties for each directory service” where “[a] client of the directory service system uses the extending component to define new object classes and new properties” (Chan, Abstract, lines 24-28). However, there is no teaching or suggestion anywhere in Chan of replicating the association stored in the first server location to a second server location, as required by claim 1.

OLE 2 teaches aggregatable objects. OLE 2 fails to cure the deficiencies of Chan. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection and allow claim 1.

Claim 18 contains similar features as described with respect to claim 1, and It is therefore allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 1. It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection and allow claim 18.

Claims 2-10, and 19-23 are all variously dependent on independent claims 1 and 18, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons given above for those claims. It is

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therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections and allow claims 2-10, and 19-23.

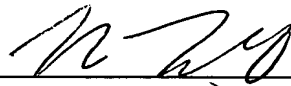
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CONCLUSION

Based on the reasons and rationale set forth herein, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections have been overcome and, accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn and that the pending claims be allowed to issue.

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